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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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State Dept. review completed

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20 October 1961

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CONTENTS

25X1

4. West Berlin: US Mission sees population as more uneasy and worried than at any time in past two years. (Page *vii*)

25X1

6. NATO: Stikker's proposal on Berlin aimed at appealing to West European opinion which opposes occupation rights as basis of Western position in Berlin. (Page *viii*)
7. France-Algeria: Further clashes between Europeans and Moslems likely. (Page *viii*)

25X1

9. Burma: Activities of Chinese Nationalist irregulars may strain Burmese-US relations. (Page *ix*)

25X1

25X1

25X1

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25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

20 October 1961

25X1

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25X1

Next 6 Page(s) In Document Exempt

25X1

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West Berlin: West Berliners, despite an outward appearance of confidence and calmness, are more uneasy and worried than at any time in the past two years, according to US Mission officials in West Berlin. There is an almost unanimous feeling among West Berlin government, business, and press leaders that the United States does not comprehend what a significant impact the sealing off of the Western sector by the Communists has had on the over-all Berlin problem. West Berliners view the Communist wall as a major victory for the Ulbricht regime by virtue of its unilateral and unopposed alteration of the status quo. West Berliners feel that the failure of the West to take countermeasures has encouraged the Communists to be tougher and that mere Western emphasis on its determination to protect "vital interests" is ineffective against Khrushchev's "salami" tactics. [REDACTED]

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20 Oct 61

DAILY BRIEF

vii

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NATO: Secretary General Stikker presented to a restricted North Atlantic Council meeting on 16 October a "personal proposal" for a Berlin solution which would maintain much of the status quo, while designating West Berlin a free city. The proposal in essence calls for the United States, Britain, and France to conclude a treaty with West Germany and for the end of the occupation status of West Berlin. In private discussions with a US official, Stikker explained that he presented his proposal because he believes there is a ground swell of West European opinion against basing the Western position in Berlin solely on "outdated" occupation rights.

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France-Algeria: Moslem observance on 22 October of the 5th anniversary of the French kidnaping of rebel vice premier Mohamed Ben Bella may cause further clashes between Europeans and Moslems in either Algeria or metropolitan France. Other clashes will almost certainly occur during the Algerian-wide Moslem demonstrations scheduled by the provisional Algerian government (PAG) for 1 November. Two members of the PAG who lunched with Secretary Williams on 17 October said that strict orders would be issued that the 1 November demonstrations be peaceful, but that European provocations "backed by certain local authorities" could quickly produce violence. The PAG members indicated that the rebels would accept this risk, as the demonstrations were "compulsory" in view of PAG efforts to increase its influence over the Algerian population.

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25X1

20 Oct 61

DAILY BRIEF

viii

25X1

25X1

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25X1

Burma - Nationalist China: The recent movement of remnants of Chinese irregulars from Thailand to Burma may spark an anti-American press campaign in Rangoon. Ambassador Everton believes that the activity of the irregulars could provide a continuing excuse for the presence of Chinese Communist troops in Burma. Thai officials are also concerned on this point and, during a forthcoming goodwill mission to Rangoon, may discuss means for settling the irregular problem. The

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20 Oct 61

DAILY BRIEF

ix

25X1

25X1

Approved For Release 2003/04/17 : CIA-RDP79T00975A006000200001-2

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Thais do not wish, however, to use their army against the irregulars.

Rangoon newspapers have prominently reported the movement of about 600 irregulars into the southeastern Shan State, and an army controlled newspaper has hinted at American and Thai support of these forces. After the evacuation to Taiwan of 3,477 irregulars in early 1961, an estimated 3,000-3,500 remained in the area. Of these, 1,200 are believed to be in Thailand, 400-600 in Laos, and 1,200-1,600 now in Burma.

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20 Oct 61

DAILY BRIEF

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25X1

Next 6 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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